

# HOLIDAY MOVIES

Check out these flicks over break!  
See A&E | Page 5

LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

# La Vie Collegienne

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## THIS WEEK IN LA VIE

### FEATURES



Looking for a last minute present that fits your budget? Check out La Vie's list of ideas!

Page 4

### PERSPECTIVES

Letter to the Editor: Student reacts to Thanksgiving meal

Page 6

### A&E



Check out all of the movies coming out over winter break

Page 5

### INDEX

News .....	1-3
Features .....	4
Arts & Entertainment .....	5
Perspectives.....	6
Sports.....	7-8

## How does LVC view its Greek life?

NICK THRAILKILL '14

LA VIE STAFF WRITER

When you hear the name of a fraternity or sorority, do you think, "Oh, like Animal House," "It's just full of party boys," "Isn't that where they do hazing?" Do these opinions accurately reflect LVC's fraternities and sororities? According to Devan Glenny '14 and Adam Gardiner '13 of TKE, Kathryn LaChance '14 of APO, Stephanie Hostetter '13 of AST, Chaplain Fullmer, and Area Coordinator Leah Leddy, these opinions do not account for the great amount of community service or the personal benefits that come from being a brother or sister at LVC.

Why does a negative view of Greek Life persist, not only at LVC but also at colleges around the nation? Gardiner, a TKE brother, says that this view arises from a lack of education about Greek organizations on campus. Glenny, another TKE brother, states that the image of brothers as party

See **GREEK** | Page 3



RESIDENTIAL LIFE

**NOT LIKE THE MOVIES** North College is home to many members of the various Greek organizations on LVC's campus. However, many of the members of these groups fear that the media is manipulating campus opinion and giving the term "Greek" a negative connotation.

## LVC community celebrates holidays and religions

JOCELYN DAVIS '15

LA VIE STAFF WRITER

"Winter holidays affirm faith in the midst of despair and discouragement in very powerful ways. As trees shed their leaves, as animals hide away, as darkness increases, winter traditions declare in faith that life will triumph over apparent death," says Chaplain Paul Fullmer.

LVC celebrates more than just Christmas during the holiday season. Students who celebrate Hindu traditions recently celebrated Diwali at the invitation of a family

in Lebanon. The students of Freedom Rings held a vigil for World AIDS Day, an annual commemoration held each December 1. A Yule ritual for students with interest in Paganism will be held on Friday, December 16 at 7 p.m. For the past several years, students with a Jewish background have distributed dreidels and gelt in celebration of Hanukkah during the first week of December. However, students have not indicated an interest in repeating that this year. Jewish students who want to share their traditions with the campus community

are encouraged to contact Chaplain Fullmer (fullmer@lvc.edu).

"There are a number of reasons that a variety of religions and cultures should be represented in celebrations during the holiday season," says senior Christa Levko. "On a college campus, or other place where there are numerous individuals present, diverse interfaith or intercultural events can reach out to students who may feel alienated during the holiday season."

See **TRADITIONS** | Page 5

### CAMPUS POLICY

## College revises harassment policy

KAMMI TROUT '13

LA VIE STAFF WRITER

After the Penn State sexual harassment scandal that came to light in November, Lebanon Valley College President, Stephen MacDonald put forth a new harassment policy for Lebanon Valley.

In an e-mail administered to staff and faculty, MacDonald states, "In light of recent events at Penn State, we all need to be clear about what we should do if we have suspicions of sexual abuse or if we witness or have direct knowledge about an incident of sexual abuse at LVC."

MacDonald defines sexual misconduct as "unwanted sexual actions or acts without the consent of both parties." It also clarifies that if the "victim of sexual misconduct is a minor or some other person unable to give consent, it is called sexual abuse."

MacDonald urges anyone who has suspicion of any incident involving sexual abuse at LVC, they should immediately report it. Staff and faculty are encouraged to report it to their supervisor or department chair.

Anyone who receives report of such abuse at LVC is to immediately report it to LVC Public Safety (717-867-6111), Student Affairs (717-867-6233), or Human Resources (717-867-6415)

All reports will be handled upon notice and with the greatest confidentiality possible.

Anyone who witnesses or has direct knowledge of an incident

See **HARASSMENT** | Page 2



WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK



lavie@lvc.edu



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x6169

FREE | TAKE ONE



NEWS

Student Government Updates 12.05.11

NICK THRAILKILL '14  
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

On December 5th, Student Government convened for its fourteenth and final meeting of the semester to hear a budget request from the Men's Volleyball Club and to discuss the SG website, student parking, the crosswalk between Lynch and Mund, issues with accessibility in the Chapel, concerns about contacting Public Safety, and Winter Formal.

The treasurer of the Men's Volleyball Club appeared before SG to request an additional \$300 to cover club expenses. SG members unanimously voted to grant the club an additional \$300.

The SG website is scheduled to be up and running by this Friday.

Students can access the SG website by going to the Student Activities page and clicking on the SG link in the sidebar.

Vice-President of Student Affairs Greg Krikorian will be sending out a student satisfactory survey sometime in February.

SG members discussed painting the crosswalk between Lynch and Mund to improve its visibility and increase student safety. SG president Ryan Humphries reminded SG that he has brought up this issue during the campus safety tour taken on the night of November 1st, and Director of Public Safety Brent Oberholtzer is currently addressing this issue.

Facilities Chair Roberto Valdes raised the issue that the elevator in the Chapel was not functioning properly during Christmas at the Valley, hindering some persons with handicaps from moving easily around the Chapel. Valdes will raise this issue with Facilities.

Responding to student concerns about contacting Public Safety during their nightly patrol hours, Oberholtzer is planning to install an emergency box outside the Public Safety office.

Class of '14 President Roberto Valdes commended the sophomore SG members and attendees for a successful Winter Formal. In particular, Valdes said that he was happy that all the seats were filled, students were dancing until 11 and beyond, and there were no major disturbances that night.

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LVC students go undercover on Twitter  
Anonymous Twitter feeds provide humor, gossip

ALLISON MCGINNISS '13  
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Twitter is the rapidly growing, social media site that allows you to "follow" your fellow "Tweeters." You are able to Tweet at others or simply write about whatever you wish. At T, students are finding themselves following unknown Twitter names.

Names like @LVCgirlproblems, @LVCguyproblems, and @rumors\_edu\_lvc.

The names give little to no hint as to who is actually Tweeting. We can assume that it's a girl updating @LVCgirlproblems and a guy for @LVCguyproblems. But other than that, students don't know who the person behind the Tweet is.

@LVCgirlproblems and @LVCguyproblems attempt to Tweet about problems that the appropriate gender encounters at LVC. They are meant to be funny, but most likely true. @rumors\_edu\_lvc lays out some funny rumors and always adds an anonymous "quote of the day."

What makes these students go undercover in order to Tweet? Maybe they are just trying to be funny. Because it is anonymous, it may be an outlet to say whatever is on their mind without being judged. Maybe it is because Twitter allows you to have a full

profile with a fake name. Who knows why? But the Tweets are entertaining enough to gain followers all around campus.

Why do LVC students choose to follow these unknown Twitter names? Different students had different responses. Jen Strack '13, says that she follows the anonymous Tweeters because "It's fun and allows people to keep up on all of the gossip." She also says that "although gossiping is bad, @LVCgirlproblems is something girls at LVC can all relate to. And @rumors\_edu\_lvc is funny."

Andrew Cooper '13 also thinks these Tweets are amusing, saying "they give me a good laugh when I see their new posts." He also thinks that the anonymity of the Tweets allows for the people behind them to "have the freedom to say what people really think."

Although he does not have a Twitter, Stephen Simonian '13 knows all about the anonymous Tweeters due to people talking about them all around campus. He says that he has "no problem with it, as long as it doesn't cross the line of being offensive."

It seems that the LVC students follow these unknown Twitter names for the fun of it. The Tweets are funny and they are ones that students can easily

relate to. These Tweets also allow LVC students to find out what is going on around campus that they may not be aware of unless they had read it on Twitter. Reading the Tweets also allows for a study break.

This is even more than an LVC trend. Tweeters all over the word assume aliases on Twitter, such as @Lord\_Voldemort7. As Lord Voldemort is a fictional character from *Harry Potter*, he is not actually Tweeting. Yet @Lord\_Voldemort7 has 1,958,183 followers. That's a lot of people reading Tweets from an unknown person.

Clearly, Tweeters everywhere enjoy following anonymous Twitter names. It seems like an outlet for the Tweeters to say whatever is on their mind and for people to read them without knowing who is saying them, for fun. The Tweets are for entertainment purposes, and LVC students tend to get laughs out of them.

*The editors of La Vie Collegienne are not responsible for any inappropriate images or content posted in the Twitter feeds mentioned in this article. These Twitter feeds do not reflect the opinions of La Vie or Lebanon Valley College, and students must read them at their own risk.*

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CAMPUS  
CRIMEWATCH

All information courtesy of the LVC Department of Public Safety  
\*\*\*\*\*

12-02-11 | Mund College Center  
Theft

12-03-11 | Derickson B  
Fire Alarm

12-03-11 | Dellinger  
Vandalism

12-04-11 | Dellinger  
Fire Alarm

12-04-11 | Funkhouser  
Theft

12-06-11 | Hammond  
Theft

Please report any suspicious activity to Public Safety at x6111.

Corrections & Clarifications

It is our continuing goal to provide readers with complete and accurate information. To that end, we welcome and encourage notification of any mistakes. Readers who wish to submit corrections should send an email to lavie@lvc.edu, subject line: *Corrections*.

HARASSMENT: Policy reminders

Continued from Page 1

of sexual abuse that has occurred at the college should report it as soon as possible to one of the aforementioned offices as well the local police department, (Annville Police Department: 717-867-2711). In an emergency, call 911.

MacDonald also states that students and employees, "should take action to safeguard the victim if the circumstances allow."

Victims of these incidents are urged to seek help from a list of confidential support options and other resources provided by the school's Sexual Misconduct

Guide. It provides instructions for filling a formal complaint, requesting for counseling support as well as providing a list of resources for victims in the Hershey/Lebanon area.

This guide is available at: <http://www.lvc.edu/public-safety/sexual-misconduct.aspx>

Lebanon Valley College began working on a sexual misconduct policy and associated procedures earlier this year. In the future, the school will be discussing the new policy as well as its procedures concerning consultation with various groups.

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# NEWS

## Day With(out) Art increases AIDS awareness

**NATOSHA KREAMER '13**  
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

"It's our generation's job to stop this epidemic in its tracks." That's how senior art education major, Nicole Mandrodt, feels about AIDS and she is actively involved in making that happen. During this semester, numerous students enrolled in Dr. Erskine's disciplinary perspective AIDS class learned about the disease. Because Dr. Erskine requires that the students participate in an active project for the semester, many participated in World AIDS Day on December 1 to raise awareness of the disease by setting up educational tables, while others participated in the AIDS walk in October. Even the

Women's Services and Gender Resource center got involved by holding a candlelight vigil to honor and remember those whose lives have been affected by AIDS while Freedom Rings showed the movie *Rent*.

Mandrode, however, opted to do something a little different than fliers or educational tables. She actively used her artwork, previously displayed on the walls of Lynch, by moving them to easels in the lobby and covering them with black fabric. She was making a statement specifically for the Day With(out) Arts, something close to her heart because of her field of study.

The first Day With(out) Art was held on December 1, 1989 as a national day of action and mourning

in response to the AIDS crisis. On that day, museums were shut down and their staff members were sent to volunteer in some type of AIDS service. Covering her artwork, Mandrode actively contributed to this day to how HIV/AIDS can affect the arts: visually, musically, and theatrically.

"By covering my paintings, I hope people can see that this affects all aspects of lives, even the art work. Music, art, writing, and theatrics are a huge part of students' lives. They need to understand that this is no longer a 'gay male' epidemic. This is a disease that affects every one of all backgrounds and interests."

N. KREAMER

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## GREEK: Greek organizations fight media stereotypes

Continued from Page 1

boys and bad students largely result from media depictions, such as in *Animal House*, *American Pie* and *Old School*. Glenn says that these movies generate opinions that members of Greek Life live to drink and party. "We've developed a lot since the 1970s," Glenn says. Gardiner admits that these stereotypes have real-life precedents, but that persons should not view the whole organization with contempt because of the actions of one person. Stephanie Hostetter, an AST sister, says that she takes pride in being in a sorority and defends sororities and fraternities when they're criticized.

However, many LVC members believe that Greek organizations promote a good self-image on campus. Kathryn LaChance, a member of APO, believes that LVC students and faculty harbor no negative views towards brothers and sisters. As well they shouldn't, she continues, because all Greek members do community service and keep their grades up. Leah Leddy says that Residential Life "encourages a wide variety of applicants [including sisters and brothers] for the RA position to keep the staff well-rounded and representative of the campus community." While Chaplain Fullmer states that as a whole, Greek organizations have a good reputation on campus, he also feels that these organizations are sometimes afraid to let non-members participate in service projects due to the solidarity between members.

Whether or not a negative image of Greek Life persists at LVC, all interviewees mentioned how the community service and the personal benefits that result from being a brother or sister outweigh any stigmas attached to being a Greek. In high school, LaChance viewed sororities and fraternities as a negative thing, but when she came to LVC, she joined APO because she wanted to participate in their service projects. Furthermore, she says, "I connect with all the people in APO. By joining APO, I found a place at LVC where I belong." Hostetter said that she became an AST sister because she wanted to be more involved on campus; as a sister, Hostetter has worked with Habitat for Humanity to build houses for the needy and has trick-or-treated for canned goods for the Ronald McDonald House. Chaplain Fullmer says that no fraternities or sororities are purely "social" anymore because they have all incorporated the key value of community service. "Their community service advances their reputation," Fullmer says, "because they don't just say service, they show it."

Though LVC's brothers and sisters perform much community service, Glenn and Fullmer express concern that Greek organizations do not promote their community service as well as they should. Fullmer feels that Greek service projects are often not promoted enough beforehand to attract non-members to join in the projects. "It's always good to get the

news out. I want them to share the good news of community service," Fullmer states. "There's a lot of good works that people never hear about." Glenn says that Greek organizations need to be more open to other students to promote their service efforts and their self-image. On the other hand, LaChance believes that Greek organizations already make students, faculty and staff well aware of their community service.

Both Greek organizations and the greater LVC community can promote a positive view of Greek Life on campus. Glenn and Gardiner suggest that an integration of Greek organizations backed by the college will produce a more knowledgeable and accurate view of Greek life. According to Gardiner, this integration is most prominent in the Greek Council, in which Director of Residential Life Jason Kuntz and two members of each fraternity and sorority meet to discuss Greek activity on campus and community service.

Fullmer suggests that Greek organizations should use MyLVC to promote their service projects and encourage students to lend their support. However, Hostetter believes that LVC students must learn to accept Greek organizations for what they are, or they will perpetuate negative stereotypes. Thus, fraternities, sororities, and the greater LVC community must work together to promote a positive image of Greek Life.

N. THRAILKILL

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## 2011 WIG & BUCKLE SHOWCASE



Russell Calkins '13 / LA VIE

## LVC welcomes French Club

**SARAH FRANK '14**  
CIRCULATION MANAGER

Some people say that French is a dying language and that soon it will no longer be a part of modern society. But, this is not true here at Lebanon Valley College. Just recently, a new club emerged in response to the fact that there was a German Club and a Spanish Club but no French Club. The idea is that French Majors should have a place that they can go to meet other people like them. The club may just be getting started, but President Hannah Free and Vice President Emily Lefin are looking into hosting cultural events. These events might include trips to French restaurants, hosting socials where food and fun prevail and, maybe if there is enough interest, they are looking into hosting cooking

classes based on French cuisine. "French Club aims to promote a cultural understanding of francophone countries through the use of the sights, sounds, and tastes of France," proclaims the club's mission statement.

While the club was created for French majors, you don't have to speak French to join (though Elementary and Intermediate French students get extra credit for attending). Usually, the club meets every Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in the Lynch Common Area, but they also hold special events like the viewing of a French Christmas movie that Professor Braem refers to as "cute." That movie will be showing Thursday, November 8 at 7:30 p.m. in Neidig-Garber, and it is open to the whole campus.

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# Features

## \$ GIFT IDEAS ON A STUDENT BUDGET \$



### Cards

A pack of holiday cards ranges from \$5 to \$20 depending on where you go and how many there are inside the packaging. Recall your favorite moment together or everything you've done within the past year. Thank them for being a part of your life. Regardless of what you say (as long as it's not negative), the recipient will appreciate that you have thought of them in this special time.



### Home-baked Cookies

If you buy enough ingredients, you can make more than one batch of cookies. Place a handful on a paper plate with aluminum foil and you have gifts for all of your friends and family. Plus, depending on the content of your parents' pantry, you might not even need to buy a single ingredient!



### Candy

All you have to do is spend \$1 on a king size candy bar at a dollar store, slap a bow on the front of it, and hand it to the chocolate lover in your life. It'll be gone within a few minutes, but those few minutes will be blissful, and your recipient is sure to be extremely thankful.



### Mix CDs/Tapes

Although it seems corny, a mix CD is both cheap and sentimental. This gift could be given to anyone that enjoys music. You could even try to be a little creative and apply themes, like friendship, dancing or nature. If you have some more time on your hands, make a book with lyrics to go with it.



### Gift Cards

When in doubt, get a gift card. Gift cards are available for any retailer and for any amount. Wal-Mart and Amazon gift cards allow the recipient to buy just about anything they want. Other favorites include iTunes and Target.

Compiled by

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## Valley's Voices: What is your favorite holiday tradition?



**Marissa Hernandez '12**  
*Psychology*

"My dad and I cook the whole Christmas meal for my very large family."



**Mike Lebo '13**  
*Digital Communications*

"Playing ice hockey with my friends and family on Christmas Eve."



**James Travers '14**  
*English Communications*

"Having all of my family members over for Christmas Eve."



**Taylor Seiber '15**  
*Digital Communications*

"Making cookies with my grandma."

Compiled by  
R. CALKINS rlc003@lvc.edu

## TRADITIONS: LVC celebrates variety of religious holidays

Continued from Page 1

Levko recently participated in the Hindu Diwali celebration with other members of the Lebanon Valley community. "Personally, the celebration reminded me a lot of home. While neither my family nor myself, is of that particular tradition, a lot of people in my hometown are, and it was a reminder of the diversity I grew up around," she explains.

The event consisted of traditional Indian appetizers, live Bollywood music, dinner, and a marking of the holiday, a celebration of light in darkness. "It was also a reminder of the communities that are often looked over in society. There was a strong celebration taking place and the neighbors probably didn't even know it," she adds.

Wiccan Study Group member, sophomore Charelle Bryant, plans to attend the Yule Ritual. She believes it is important for LVC to offer holiday celebrations for more religions than Christianity.

Bryant explains, "All faiths can have wonderful impacts on those who practice them. Even though the majority of the people on this campus are Christian, if only Christian celebrations were of-



Justin Roth / LA VIE

derstanding when we acknowledge faiths other than our own. The Christian community on campus, for this reason, can also benefit from non-Christian celebrations, both to learn something new and celebrate a very community-oriented season with their non-Christian friends. Offering a variety of religious activities on campus is not only extremely empowering as well as spiritually beneficial to religious minorities on campus, but also educational and perfect for fostering a sense of community and togetherness."

*Holidays Around The World, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Friendship House and Residential Life, is a great opportunity to explore holiday*

*traditions of different religious and cultural backgrounds. This event will be held Thursday, December 8, from 5 to 6p.m. at the Friendship House, 104 College Ave.*

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# Arts & Entertainment

# GZ

## The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim

ANDREW VEIRTZ '12  
A&E EDITOR

When I put the black and silver DVD into my computer for the first time, even I didn't expect what kind of experience The Elder Scrolls V: Skyrim would offer to me. I had been a fan of the series for years, since the third installment, Morrowind. I always thought that the fourth installment, Oblivion, was a great but flawed entry in the series that didn't live up to its predecessor. With the release of Skyrim in the beginning of November, my thoughts were clear: Skyrim takes what was best about both of the previous installments in the series and makes them better, crafting a living, breathing world stuffed with so much to see and do that it's a little overwhelming. The game is not without flaws, though. The game's visuals are all over the place, animation bugs are present, and a few other rusty spots mar this otherwise incredible game.

The real star of Skyrim is, of course, the game world itself. The first time you really come out of a cave and look around at the sprawling scenery will take your breath away. Misty mountains dot the horizon, snow covered trees and rocks line the path, and a multitude of bugs, hawks, deer, foxes, wolves, and the occasional

bear prowl through the woods. The land is rugged and unforgiving, but at the same time intensely beautiful. Each of the holds in Skyrim (think of them like the different 'states' or 'counties' Skyrim, each with their own capitals and boundary lines) has a distinct feel to it: the Rift is an autumnal wooded area chock full of lakes and fallen leaves, while the Pale is a quiet snowy landscape near the sea, the Reach is a rocky, mountainous area with cities carved right out of the mountainsides. Skyrim has a much more epic feel to its landscape than Oblivion or Morrowind had, as just the mere sight of the College of Winterhold seated precariously over the icy waters of the sea of Ghosts is totally breathtaking. And these sights are visible from miles away, as Skyrim's new Creation engine has no problem with rendering this huge world all at once.

As much as the gameworld has improved, the combat system has had similar strides in quality. Skyrim has adopted a "two hand" system similar to that found in BioShock, where the player can place different weapons, spells, staves, or shields into each hand. You can choose to wield a sword and a

shield, which would give you extra protection and the ability to block and even bash your opponents. Instead you could opt to wield a spell and a weapon at the same time, burning your foes as well as smashing them over the head with mace. Practically any combination



Bethesda

is feasible, which allows for lots of customization in terms of play style.

No aspect of the combat has improved as much as the spellcasting system. Gone are the flowchart number-crunching spells of the previous Elder Scrolls games; instead there are about 90 spells offered to the player, and each has its own effect. The traditional fire, ice and lightning spells are present,

but in many different forms. You can shoot a continuous gout of fire to fry your enemies to a crisp, or you can shoot enemies with icicles, or cast bolts of lightning that can jump to other enemies close by. The types of spells are many and varied, and while spellmaking is not present, it is a welcome trade because each spell has its own distinct feel, and they feel powerful. But most of all, being a mage is fun.

With these combat tactics in tow, there is a lot to do in Skyrim. In all there are six main quest lines to finish: the main quest involving the dragons, the civil war in Skyrim between the Empire and the rebel Stormcloaks, the Companions quests, the College of Winterhold, the Thieves Guild, and the Dark Brotherhood, an assassin's guild. Each of these are about as long and involving as any other game's main quest. There are also a staggering amount of side quests as well. Some may involve sabotaging a lighthouse to wreck an incoming merchant ship for its cargo, and others have you do a task for a Daedric Prince (the demons of The Elder Scrolls mythology) in return for a rare and powerful Daedric artifact. The quests in Skyrim are not generic "fetch" quests; each one feels natural, fun, and most of all, unique.

Skyrim is not without a few flaws, however. The visuals, while on a whole quite good, are inconsistent. Some rock and tree textures tend to be low-res, as do some of the armor textures. There are also some quirky animation bugs, with some of the kill animation in combat having arms or shields or other body parts clipping through the bodies. Some of the dragons also tend to fly around backwards, while quite hilarious, tends to pull you out of the experience. I also had some issues with quests not triggering, one of which prevented me from buying one of the houses in the game.

Skyrim is a self-contained world where the player is free to do just about anything they want. The experience is so much more polished and honed than previous Elder Scrolls games. The gameplay itself is much improved with better combat and a fun spell system. The world design is bar-none, and every location provides a sense of wonder. This is the best Elder Scrolls game, and the best RPG this year. When it comes down to it, Skyrim is an instant classic, and is well worth your money. Just be careful: your journey to Skyrim will envelop you and immerse you, and even weeks later you will still find yourself enthralled.

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## Bored over break? Go see these flicks!

NICKI SHEPSKI '14  
FEATURES EDITOR

**The Sitter**, comedy, opens 12/9/11 – Directed by the same person that made Pineapple Express, this movie stars Jonah Hill (Accepted, Superbad) as Noah, a suspended college student that lives at home with Mom. He is persuaded to babysit the neighbor kids, but while on duty he is invited to a party to have sex with his girlfriend. He foolishly takes the kids along and then soon becomes wrapped up in a wild goose chase across Manhattan with a group of drug dealers.

**New Year's Eve**, romantic comedy, opens 12/9/11 – This

movie comes from the same people that produced Valentine's Day in 2010 and follows a wide range of characters trying to find love on New Year's Eve. Like Valentine's Day, it involves a cast of more than twenty well-known actors in several different states of romance, including Robert De Niro, Jessica Biel, Ashton Kutcher and Lea Michele.

**Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows**, action, releases 12/16/11 – Robert Downey Jr. (Iron Man) stars in this sequel to the well-received Sherlock Holmes of 2009, based on the novels written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. The sequel delves into the mysteries of Professor

Moriarty, played by Jared Harris of AMC's Mad Men, who designs a murder that only Holmes can solve, which in turn is discovered to be a part of an even bigger mystery. Jude Law (Cold Mountain, The Holiday) returns as Dr. John Watson.

**The Adventures of Tintin**, releases 12/21/11 – Based on the Belgian comic series of the same name, The Adventures of Tintin is Steven Spielberg's latest performance capture 3D film. Tintin, a young journalist and his dog discover a model of a ship. A piece of parchment falls out of it, and then he is captured and held prisoner on a ship. He and the captain go on a journey to find other model

ships that entangle the two in a never-ending adventure.

**The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo**, thriller, releases 12/23/11 – Based off of Stieg Larson's novel of the same title, this movie follows a man named Blomkvist that is investigating a woman's disappearance and possible murder after more than thirty years. Daniel Craig (Casino Royale, Cowboys and Aliens) and Rooney Mara (The Social Network) lead.

**The Darkest Hour**, science-fiction/horror, releases 12/25/11 – What better way to celebrate the holidays than to experience a Russian alien invasion in 3D. The Darkest Hour

stars Emile Hirsch (Speed Racer, Into the Wild) and Olivia Thirlby (Juno) as citizens caught up in the invasion that decide to fight back against invisible creatures made of pure energy.

**Contraband**, action, releases 1/13/12 – Chris Farraday, played by Mark Wahlberg (Shooter, The Fighter), had retired from a life of crime long ago, but when his brother-in-law gets caught up in a disaster drug deal, he is forced back into his old ways to resolve his brother-in-law's debt and save the lives of his family. Kate Beckinsale (Underworld, Click) co-stars as his wife.

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## PERSPECTIVES

## Letters to the Editor

*La Vie Collegienne* requires all Letters to the Editor to contain the author's name, telephone number, and e-mail address. No initials or pen names will be accepted. *La Vie* does not publish any anonymous letters.

Telephone numbers and email addresses are required for verification. They will not be printed.

Letters should be no longer than 200 words. All letters for submission become property of *La Vie Collegienne*. *La Vie* reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, and clarity. Submissions may be edited and may be published or otherwise refused.

Letters, columns, and opinion-based articles do not necessarily represent the views of *La Vie* or Lebanon Valley College.

Submissions may be e-mailed to [lavie@lvc.edu](mailto:lavie@lvc.edu), hand-delivered to our Mund office, submitted to [lavieonline.lvc.edu](http://lavieonline.lvc.edu) or mailed to the address below.

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*La Vie Collegienne* is published every Wednesday of the academic year. Meetings are held Mondays at 5:15 p.m. in our Mund office, activities room #3. We're always looking for new writers!

## Letter to the Editor: Missing traditions

Walking through the social quad, talking to my peers in classes, and listening to the news, I've heard a lot of complaining about the upcoming holiday season. *They are playing Christmas commercials already? Walmart is decorated already? Thanksgiving hasn't even happened yet!*

While the overwhelming amount of holiday cheer is used (improperly) as an annoying marketing device, a different sort of complaint lays heavily on my heart: I don't see any sign of holiday spirit on our campus. You know that feeling of holiday comfort: the longing to run through the snow to attack a friend with a snowball, to cuddle up on the couch watching *A Christmas Story* with some hot cocoa. For the past two years, I was never in the holiday spirit until a vital LVC tradition took place: Thanksgiving dinner. Because winter break takes up nearly all of December, it's rare that I get to feel "the Christmas spirit" with my best friends at school. Thanksgiving dinner sets me up to feel that warm fuzzy feeling when you just long to make snow angels in the social quad, and walk out to the freshmen parking lot to go sledding with laundry hampers (I can't be the only one who's done that).

Perhaps because of the Mund construction, or perhaps because

of some unknown budget change, Thanksgiving dinner simply was not the same this year. While I both admire and am entirely thankful for all the staff members who partook in this special event, *something was missing*.

As a junior, I have experienced nearly every tradition our school has—Oktoberfest, Christmas at the Valley, the march after winning an Albright football game, Dutchmen Day—and Thanksgiving dinner is still my favorite. Yes, I even like it more than Dutchmen Day.

For my first two Thanksgiving meals, my friends and I stood in line for an hour and a half in order to be sure to get a seat. The line even reached outside of the old Mund building, where students braved the cold weather in order to be served. Upon walking into West dining hall, our cafeteria was nearly unrecognizable. Tables were draped with white cloths, and formal dining-wear was placed on top of them: wine glasses, glass plates, actual silverware, and a giant basket of biscuits, with a side of butter. A different member of the faculty / administration was the "server" for a set of tables. They took our drink orders (hot cider and water), and brought them out in pitchers.

Before being served our meal, Chaps gave an opening remark.

He rejoiced in telling us a story of a past Thanksgiving at LVC, and then helped to lead a group prayer for all in the cafeteria. My friends and I held hands and closed our eyes, absorbing an overwhelming feeling of thanks. During the first course (which was served directly to our tables by the servers), we enjoyed music from a choir group on campus. We all stuffed our faces with as much food as we could physically handle—and then ate pumpkin pie. As a community—no, as a family—we all sat, ate, and talked with friends, colleagues, members of the staff and faculty to rejoice and give thanks for the wonderful home we have at LVC.

This year's tradition was extremely different. My friends and I stood in line for an hour in order to be sure to get a seat, only to realize that the tradition, perhaps because of a lack of seating space, was different. The tables that had once been elaborately decorated were set with paper turkey mats and paper cups. Our servers, as wonderful members of the LVC community, were extremely nice, and you could tell that they wanted to keep the tradition alive—yet, they didn't even serve us food to our tables. We walked up to the food stations and were served there. My friends and I waited to start eating, expecting open remarks and a prayer. Chaps was nowhere in sight. We

wound up praying together as a table, before eating.

Everything and everyone just felt... rushed. Rather than holiday music, we listened to a student play modern songs, such as hits from Adele and Maroon 5, on the piano. He was an excellent musician, but it had nothing to do with the holidays. The entire service concluded in around a half of an hour.

Now it may seem that my complaints are petty, and perhaps they are, a bit. The weak Thanksgiving dinner, however, threatens to wipe the tradition from the list of great LVC traditions, and this frightens me. The Thanksgiving dinner at LVC is about a lot more than just food. It's about togetherness. It's about a tradition that is beyond our time here at LVC, and it's a story that makes our school so much greater than all of those other schools. LVC is our home, and Thanksgiving dinner is perhaps the best physical embodiment of that feeling of community.

I hope that in future years, Thanksgiving dinner can be back to its former glory. At the moment, it feels as if some mythical Grinch stole LVC's holiday spirit, and like little Cindy Lou Who, I really want it back.

**Brittany Soda '13**

## Quiet classrooms and unraised hands

**CODY HOLT '13**

**TYLER REINBOLD '12**

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

It happens every day, and not only at LVC. The professor asks a question. A few eager hands shoot up. But only a few. Why is that?

According to one LVC professor, only 20 percent of students are ready and willing participants in class discussions. Another 60 percent require extra motivation, while the remaining 20 percent just don't care.

If you're a student, you've probably seen classmates who barely twitch when the instructor asks a question. You could even be one of them.

It's an alarming thought for faculty members who consider participation vital to the learning process. They say that students need to be able to take the material they learn in class and find a way to put it into their own terms.

Teachers often incorporate par-

ticipation into the student's grade as motivation, yet students simply see it as another irritating class requirement. What causes students to have this attitude?

Ponder this for a moment: your teacher, an expert in their field, asks a question. What's your first impulse? Nine times out of ten, it's to sit there quietly and nod your head for fear of challenging the all-knowing professor.

Though some will deny it, fear of challenging professors or classmates tends to halt class discussion. The first accepted opinion usually becomes the only one.

One LVC professor called this the "congealed" opinion of the class, having seen it happen himself.

Confronting another student with an unfamiliar opinion can be uncomfortable. Particularly when students have become so accustomed to communicating electronically that speaking verbally to each other has become

foreign to them.

The fact that we live in a consumer culture where people are used to simply getting what they pay for doesn't help either. People think if you pay for a sandwich, a new car, or Internet service, you better get it.

But an education is different. A professor can't just pull one off the shelf and hand it to you. You've got put work into it, too.

All of these factors are strangling the life out of class discussion. Is there any remedy?

Participation is ultimately the result of students, teachers, and the environment they collectively create. It requires a well-established "culture" in the classroom that actively fosters, instead of merely encouraging, communication and discussion.

Teachers can use "ice-breaker" exercises that put each student into direct contact with all of their classmates. That initial contact with unfamiliar people is usually the most un-

comfortable, so getting this out of the way in the beginning will promote a feeling of safety and comfort where students are free to express themselves.

Small group projects can build on this foundation. Not only does it compel discussion on a small scale through peer-review, but it can also help students prepare material for discussion in class so that they can engage in discussion with confidence.

This confidence will grow even more if it is made clear that the discussion is not about finding and accepting the "correct" answer, but exploring and experimenting with diverse ideas.

They need to know that it is safe to make mistakes, and that our worst mistakes are often our best opportunities to learn.

And isn't that what we're all here for?

**C. HOLT**  
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# SPORTS

## SCOREBOARD

Men's Basketball  
vs Arcadia University  
L 67-69  
at Wilkes University  
L 74-82

Women's Basketball  
vs Arcadia University  
W 75-44

Men's Ice Hockey  
at University of Scranton  
L 4-5 (SOL)  
vs University of Delaware  
L 1-11

Men's Track & Field  
at Ursinus College  
5th of 13 (48 points)

Women's Track & Field  
at Ursinus College  
4th of 13 (41 points)

For more results,  
visit [GoDutchmen.com](http://GoDutchmen.com)

## COACHES OF THE YEAR

### JIM MONOS FOOTBALL

Coach Monos led the Dutchmen to their second ECAC South-West Bowl win in the last three years this season, and finished with an 8-3 record. He produced one of the best offensive teams in the MAC, scoring 389 points and averaging 35 per game.



### CAROL MILLER FIELD HOCKEY

In her first year as head field hockey coach at LVC, Miller's team ended up with a 17-5 record with an ECAC Championship to round up the season. After starting off slow with a 0-3 record, her team made changes and bounced back to win the next 17 out of 19 games.



## Season opener for T&F is a success

CHLOE GUNTHER '13  
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

Lebanon Valley's track and field team got off to a good start on Saturday during their first meet of the season at Ursinus College.

The men finished fifth with 48 points, while the women finished fourth with 41.

For the women, Alisha Farrell won the pole vault with a 2.90m clearance, her personal-best. She also placed second in the long jump at 4.91m.

Two third place finishes came from Kristin Fitti-Hafer, running 8.20 in the 60-meter dash and a 9.57 in the 60-meter hurdles. Kelsey Wallen finished seventh in the 60-meter hurdles.

Freshmen Tori Stramara and Mariah Smolka both had top-ten finishes. Stramara placed fourth in the triple jump, 9.44m, and Smolka threw 10.26m in the shot put, earning sixth place and fourth on LVC's all-time top-10



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list.

For the men, Darryl Sweeper came in second for the 60-meter hurdles at 9.12 and Parris Knox finished the 60-meter hurdles in third at 9.19.

Nick D'Angelo placed sixth in the 5,000-meter run in 16:33.93.

Erik Brandt and Caleb Wiley finished third and fourth, respectively, in the long jump. Brandt had a 6.16m mark whereas Wiley

had a 6.07m mark. They both finished in the top five for triple jump also, Wiley took second at 12.24m and Brandt finished fifth at 11.78m.

Mike Weir and Dominic Di-Angelis also added top 10 finishes in the pole vault. Weir placed fourth at 3.95m and Di-Angelis got ninth at 3.50m.

C. GUNTHER

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## Schedule

### Wednesday, 12/7

Men's Basketball  
vs Lancaster Bible College  
7:30 p.m.

### Thursday, 12/8

Women's Basketball  
at Brooklyn College  
8 p.m.

### Friday, 12/9

Men's Ice Hockey  
vs Towson University  
7 p.m.

### Saturday, 12/10

Swimming  
at King's College  
1 p.m.

Track & Field  
at Dickinson Invitational  
TBA

For more team schedules,  
visit [GoDutchmen.com](http://GoDutchmen.com)

## Women's basketball romps over Arcadia

ALEX BEARD '14  
LA VIE STAFF WRITER

The Lebanon Valley women's basketball team rode a hot streak into Saturday's matchup with winless Arcadia (0-5, 0-1 CC), undefeated and topping the Commonwealth Conference scoring charts.

The #8 Dutchmen (6-0, 2-0 CC) got points from twelve different players on the way to a more than comfortable 75-44 drubbing of the Knights. Freshman guard Kiely Chaklos and junior forward Liz Borgia paved the way with ten points apiece and the Dutchmen went off on a flying 13-0 run to start the game.

Junior guard Tierney Hiltz drained two three-pointers in the first half to help LVC take a 42-18 lead into halftime.

Arcadia woke up a bit in the second half, shooting 32 percent

from the floor compared to 19 percent in the first half, but LVC remained consistent, hitting 39 percent of their field goals in the second half.

Spurred on by an impressive 34 points from the bench, the Dutchmen never looked worried as sophomore Gab Vass poured in a career high eight points while junior center Renee Fritz, senior guard Caitlin Murphy and sophomore guard Caitlin Bach contributed seven of their own.

Junior Guard Amanda Donia was a rock on defense, snatching nine rebounds and pilfering three steals. Bach grabbed eight rebounds of her own.

Press time couldn't allow for a recap of the women's game last night at Misericordia.

The women will travel to New York City to take on Brooklyn College on Thursday at 8pm.

A. BEARD

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## Men take tough loss against Wilkes

DAN CALLAHAN '14  
SPORTS EDITOR

Their comeback wasn't enough for a victory Monday night.

The LVC men's basketball team (5-3) lost a close game to Wilkes (6-1) by a score of 82-74.

Playing without leading scorer Danny Brooks '13, senior Joe Meehan stepped in to bucket the team-high 22 points with four assists, followed by Jordan Stewart '12 who scored 17 in the loss. Cameron Prince '12 also added 12 points with seven rebounds.

Near the end of the first half with the game tied, the Colonels went on an 11-0 run to make the lead 13 at halftime. An early run in the following half mounted by three-pointers by junior Matt O'Brien and Stewart brought the score back within four

points.

The end of the game seemed decided by foul shots, as Stewart hit two to make the deficit two points, but then Wilkes made two free ones at the other end. LVC didn't convert on their next possession, and Wilkes pulled out the win after going 8-for-8 on free throws in the final minute. The Colonels also shot 59% from the floor.

Lancaster Bible College will face off against the Dutchmen tonight at 7:30pm in the LVC gymnasium.

D. CALLAHAN

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# SPORTS

## WE SALUTE YOU

*Congratulations to the fall sports teams on their great seasons*



**LEFT:** The Dutchmen football team finished the season with an 8-3 record. They won the ECAC South-West Bowl against Saint Vincent College. Ben Guiles was named the MAC Offensive Player of the Year.

**RIGHT:** The field hockey team ended the season with an ECAC Championship, and a 17-5 record. They also went 5-1 in the conference. Jocelyn Novak became the nation's D-III leader in points and goals.



**LEFT:** Volleyball made it to the NCAA first round, and won their fourth consecutive MAC Championship. They ended up going 22-10 overall. Jamie Hawk was named a D-III All-America Honorable Mention.

**RIGHT:** The women went 13-6-3 this season, and 5-1-1 in their conference. A tough end to the year in the CC finals and NCAA first round doesn't justify their accomplishments this year. Nicole Snyder was named the CC Player of the Year.



**LEFT:** The men's soccer team finished up the season with a shootout loss in the ECAC quarterfinals. They finished with a 12-8-1 record. Chris Hall and Kelly Hess were named to the first team All-CC, and Travis Miller was named to the second team.

**RIGHT:** They finished in the top ten in four of their meets in a great year for Elliott Bonds and Nick D'Angelo.



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**LEFT:** The women's cross-country team had a successful year, finishing in the top six teams in four different meets. Cynthia Adams led the team, placing the highest in meets on the team.

### DAN CALLAHAN '14 SPORTS EDITOR

This fall sports season was a very successful one for Dutchmen athletics.

Combined, all LVC fall sports went 72-32-4. We crowned two ECAC Champs in football and field hockey, and volleyball won their fourth MAC Championship in a row.

Overall, these sports teams accomplished many team goals and finished their seasons strong. With

every team having a winning record and very notable victories, it only gets better here for these teams next season.

Many seniors finished their careers this fall and are graduating in the fall; good luck to them all.

D. CALLAHAN

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